

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/003684

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 264 647 B1 (LECHOT ANDR&EACUTE;) 24 July 2001 (2001-07-24) cited in the application the whole document	1-23
A	US 5 658 290 A (LECHOT ET AL) 19 August 1997 (1997-08-19) cited in the application the whole document	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/03/2005

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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			EP	1129667 A1	05-09-2001
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			EP	0704191 A1	03-04-1996
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